GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:500
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Returning of Awards
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that many renowned literary writers had returned awards given to them for their exemplary work in the field of literature;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the names of the writers who returned their Sahitya Academy awards during the last three years;

(c) the total number of Sahitya Academy awards dispersed during the last three years;

(d) whether the Academy had passed a resolution urging writers not to return their awards; and

(e) the number of writers who reconsidered the Government''s request and accepted back the awards they returned?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM
(Dr. MAHESH SHARMA)

ANSWER

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The list of writers who have returned their Sahitya Akademi awards during the last three years is enclosed at Annexure. The writers claimed that there was an attack on their freedom of expression and the Akademi kept silent on the issue.

(c): During the last three years, Sahitya Akademi has dispersed a total of 280 awards.

(d): Yes, Madam. The Akademi had convened a special Executive Board meeting on 23.10.2015 and 17.12.2015 in which Resolution had been passed requesting the writers to reconsider their decision.

(e): Sri Nand Bhardwaj, noted Rajasthani writer has taken back his decision of returning the award.

Annexure

SAHITYA AKADEMI NEW DELHI

The following award winners returned the Sahitya Akademi Awards to the Akademi during the last three years:

S.No Name

1 Uday Prakash
2 Ashok Vajpeyi
3 Krishna Sobti
4 Mangalesh Dabral
5 Kashinath Singh
6 Rajesh Joshi

ENGLISH

7 G.N. Devy
8 Nayantara Sahgal
9 Keki Daruwalla

GUJRATI

10 Anil Joshi
PUNJABI

11 Waryam Singh Sandhu

12 Surjit Patar
13 Jaswinder
14 Gurbachan Bhullar
15 Atamjit
16 Baldev Singh
17 Darshan Butter
18 Ajmer Singh Aulakh
19 Mohan Bhandari

RAJASTHANI

20 Nand Bhardwaj
21 Ambikadutt

KANNADA

22 Kum Veerbhadrappa
23 Rahamat Tarikere
24 Devanuru Mahadeva

KASHMIRI

25 Ghulam Nabi Khayal
26 Margoob Banihali

URDU

27 Munawwar Rana
28 Khaleel Mamoon

MALAYAM

29 Sara Joseph

ASSAMESE

30 Homen Borgohain
31 Nirupama Borgohain

TELUGU

32 Katyayani Vidmahe
Translation Prize

HINDI

33 Chaman Lal

Kannada

34 G.N. Ranganatha Rao

MARATHI

35 Ibrahim Afghan

YUVA PURASKAR

ENGLISH
36 Aman Sethi

PUNJABI
37 Pargat Singh Satauj

BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR

TELUGU
38 M. Bhoopal Reddy

GOLDEN JUBILEE AWARD
39 Mandakranta Sen